

SLC Update, SLC Training, and SSO Notebook Overview

Task Overview

KPMG Consulting developed the Security SLC during task order 59.1. At the time, we knew that the Department would issue guidance that might influence the timing of several deliverables within the SLC. As a result, during task order 92.1, we updated the SLC to reflect the Department's new directives for risk assessments and sensitivity and criticality assessments. Additionally, we took the opportunity to conduct an SLC training session for the SSOs and several contract support personnel. The training further established the foundation of security education necessary for FSA's security officers.

Task Description

Our approach to this task was to review the risk assessment and inventory worksheet guidance provided by the Department and compare its methodology to the methodology within the Security SLC. Several line items were identified as inconsistent. For example, the requirement for each system to complete a GSS/MA inventory worksheet did not exist during the initial draft of the SLC. Because the analysis required to complete the worksheet needed an examination of the system's sensitivity and criticality, we reworked the sensitivity and criticality analysis portion of the SLC to accommodate this requirement. The inventory worksheet now exists as a deliverable with the sensitivity, criticality and privacy act assessments being conducted during the Definition Phase.

Another modification in the Security SLC is the timing of the vulnerability and threat analysis. Originally, these analyses were performed in the Definition Phase of the lifecycle. We have changed this timing to reflect the Department's risk assessment guidance. The vulnerability and threat analysis now occurs within the risk assessment report deliverable.

To train the Security SLC, KPMG Consulting created a training program that provided a high-level overview of the SLC to FSA's SSO community. The training consisted of an oral presentation of the phases of the lifecycle, a discussion of the security products created during the lifecycle, and ended with the presentation of System Security Officer Notebooks. The notebooks are intended to assist the SSOs categorize and maintain all of their security documentation. The document is divided into six tabs, each containing definitions of the products contained within the tab and a log sheet clearly identifying the origin and version of the document. The tabs are labeled as follows: Contracts and Business Case, Certification and Accreditation, Security Plan, Assessments and Audits, Training, Clearance and Access Forms.

Task Status

The Department is scheduled to issue certification and accreditation guidance during the month of April. Upon receiving this guidance, KPMG Consulting will review the Security SLC for consistency and issue updates as necessary. Additionally, we will create a detailed SLC training program for those SSO who are involved with the creation of a new system, or with a system undergoing a major modification. Finally, we will provide updates to the SSO Notebook, and will post the notebook logsheets on the online SSO Reference Guide.